

with officials in the Clinton, Bush and Obama administrations to achieve this goal.

Dr. Swamy is the president of America Tamil Sangam, an organization that promotes Tamil language and heritage throughout the United States. America Tamil Sangam provides a platform for Tamil scholars, writers and artists to share a rich culture and history with the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Dr. Prakash Swamy for his accomplishments in the U.S. and abroad, and for his continued dedication to improving India-U.S. relations.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DIWALI AT TIMES SQUARE CELEBRATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Diwali At Times Square celebration of Diwali, the Festival of Lights. I particularly want to recognize Neeta Bhasin, President and CEO of Event Guru and ASB Communications, for her extraordinary effort in organizing this event. The largest Asian-Indian event in the United States, it has successfully united Hindus, Sikhs and other Diwali celebrators from all over the world in the heart of New York to share the joyous occasion.

Diwali At Times Square started in 2013 and has since grown into an eight-hour event featuring delicious food, fashion, arts and crafts, and Bollywood performances. It displays Asian-Indian culture to the world and engages people of all ages and backgrounds in the values of Diwali: light over dark, knowledge over ignorance, and good over evil.

This year, I had the pleasure of attending Diwali At Times Square. The energy and joy at the celebration is contagious. Times Square, one of the brightest places on earth, is the perfect location to honor the Festival of Lights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Neeta Bhasin and Diwali At Times Square for helping everyone in the New York Metropolitan region celebrate this beautiful holiday.

IN HONOR OF DR. LAKSHMI-
NARAYANA SUBRAMANIAM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Lakshminarayana Subramaniam for his contributions to classical music. Dr. Subramaniam's achievements have reshaped and added a new dimension to a genre of music which so many people enjoy.

Dr. Subramaniam has earned degrees in Western Classical composition, distinctions in western violin studies, classical Carnatic music, and medicine. This unique combination of classical western and South Indian music led Dr. Subramaniam to develop not only a new style of orchestral writing, but a new genre altogether.

As one of India's most prolific composers, Dr. Subramaniam has collaborated, conducted, and performed with world class orchestras and musicians from all over the globe at some of music's most famous venues. To date, Dr. Subramaniam has worked with over 50 orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Swiss Romande, and the Royal Oman Symphony. His recorded collaborations with musicians include Yehudi Menuhin, Stephane Grappelli, Joe Sample, and George Harrison. The sounds of Dr. Subramaniam's compositions have graced the halls of venues like the Lincoln Center, the Tchaikovsky Hall, Zhongshan Music Hall, and the Gewandhaus. Dr. Subramaniam is one of only a handful of living composers with over 150 live performances of his various orchestral works.

In 1992, Dr. Subramaniam co-founded the Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival, which showcases various genres from a multitude of different artists. The event has been held in 55 cities in 22 countries, drawing audiences of up to 200,000 people. In 2007, Dr. Subramaniam co-founded the Subramaniam Academy of Performing Arts, a global music institute located in Bangalore which exposes its young students to music from all over the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Dr. Subramaniam for his contributions to the musical world. Dr. Subramaniam's achievements in composition, conduction, and orchestral performance are truly unparalleled.

IN HONOR OF THE FORTUNATO
BROTHERS CAFE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Fortunato Brothers Cafe, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary as a neighborhood institution in Brooklyn's Williamsburg. What started as an idea by three brothers from Italy to make and sell authentic Italian desserts has become a landmark and a point of pride for New York's vibrant Italian community.

Opened in October 1976 by Salvatore, Michael, and Mario Fortunato in Williamsburg, the Fortunato Brothers Cafe is known for its famous pastries with displays full of cannoli, marzipan, tarts, gelato, and cakes of all shapes and sizes. Using the same original recipes since its opening, Fortunato Brothers Cafe's sweets are just as delicious now as they were in 1976.

The bakery's continued success serves as a model of excellence for other small businesses and speaks to the strength of New York's Italian community. In a city crowded with Italian restaurants and eateries, Fortunato Brothers Cafe continues to shine due to the high standard its owners have set for it.

The Fortunato Brothers Cafe is a symbol of the resilience and liveliness of Italian heritage. Although Williamsburg has changed a lot over the years, the bakery's recipes and atmosphere are timeless. Fortunato Brothers Cafe's widespread popularity reflects the profound positive impact Italian culture has had on New York.

Fortunato Brothers Cafe continues to be a welcoming and familiar place for neighbors to come together over a cup of coffee or a pastry. Still owned by Salvatore, Michael, and Mario, the bakery remains dedicated to serving the community with delicious baked goods and a welcoming environment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary achievements of the Fortunato Brothers Cafe as it celebrates 40 years of serving tasty delicacies in North Brooklyn.